

TWO CENTS

IS DENIED BY ITALY

Claimed That No Bounty is Paid on
Sugar Exports

DECLARATION TO STATE DEPARTMENT

Extra Duties Imposed Pending an Investigation

A CASE LIKE BURGESS

An official statement from the Italian government has been communicated to the State Department to the effect that Italy pays no export bounty on sugar. This action by the Italian authorities follows eight days from the issuance of Secretary Gage's treasury order suspending the liquidation of all sugar imported from or produced in Italy, on the ground that the treasury had information leading to the belief that Italian sugar received a bounty. Mr. Gage's order was dated June 1st. The action of the Italian government was communicated by a cable to the Italian embassy here and was made known to the acting secretary of state, Dr. Hill, by Mr. Carignani, the Italian charge d'affaires.

Secretary Gage's Order.

Mr. Gage's circular did not state positively that Italy paid an export bounty, but said that it

that it appeared highly probable that this was the case, and accordingly the liquidation of sugar accounts with Italy were suspended pending further investigation. The declaration now made by the Italian government does not appear to be anything more than a sharp issue, but rather to make known the official language that Italy does not pay the bounty on sugar. The treasury order recites:

"In view of the information thus far received as to the operations of the law of Italy, not in force, concerning the export of sugar, it appears highly probable that sugar produced in that country receives in-

direct export bounty as follows:
 "Sugar below 20 Dutch standard, 5.60 francs per 100 kilograms.
 "Sugar No. 20 Dutch standard, 6.13 francs per 100 kilograms.
 "Pending further investigation of the matter the liquidation of all sugars imported from or produced in Italy shall be suspended, and the duties shall be estimated in amount sufficient to cover additional duties.

From the standpoint of the Italian authorities the foregoing order was doubtless preliminary to one putting into effect the differential rates of duty on sugar. In consequence the official declaration is now submitted to the State Department that Italy pays no bounty on her sugar.

A Case Like Russia's.

The action taken by Italy raises a question somewhat analogous to that now pending with Russia, each concerning sugar, and each referring to the alleged payment of a bounty. Russia has taken a position that she pays no bounty, and Italy now

makes a formal declaration of the same kind. While this is not necessarily a protest, it presents an issue of fact as to whether or not the government has understood that within a week the Italian government will submit a full presentation of facts sustaining the present declaration. The presentation to the State department being merely a brief official notification of Italy's position without the data to uphold that position.

The terms of the treasury order are such that the merchandise referred to are now being enforced against Italy, for although the order recites that the matter is still under investigation, it concludes with the specific instruction that the duties shall be estimated on the basis of the tariff schedule and the amounts sufficient to cover additional duties equal to the above specified duty." These additional duties referred to are 3.50 francs (or about \$1.12), in one case, and 6.13 francs (or about \$1.92), in the other.

The duties, therefore, are in effect without further order, although the terms of the order indicate that the per-

Other Countries Interested.

tries are observing the course of Russia and Italy with much interest. It was stated in one of these quarters that the

usual rule in a question of doubt was "Dans de doubt, abstiens toi," that is, "In case of doubt abstain." But it is pointed out that in this case the extra duty has been assigned pending the investigation which is to settle the question of doubt involved.

OPEN CELLAR DOORS.

Prominent Merchants Charged With Violating Police Regulations.

Frank Storly, William Vonderheide, S. Walter Woodward, A. M. Lethrop, Simon Kann, Andrew and Isadore Saks, Samuel Ross, Edward La Petra and Edward Stevens, all local business men, will be given

morning on a charge preferred by the police of the first precinct of violating the

police regulations. Warrants were served yesterday on all the merchants named and when the cases came up for trial this morning a continuance was granted.

The warrants were issued as a result of a raid inaugurated by the police against business men in the downtown section of the city who have been in the habit of leaving their cellar doors open. Complaints have been made to the police department lately that the opening of cellar doors on the pavement in front of the business houses not only constitutes an obstruction, but also creates a danger to life and limb. A police regulation exists prohibiting this practice.

It is probable that warrants will be served on other business men down town alleged to have violated the ordinance before the cases are tried on Saturday.

A case was sought to be made out against John Schlotterbeck on the charge, but a nolle pros. was entered in the Police Court this morning when the warrant was considered.

DELAY ON NAVAL VESSELS.
Believed That the Trouble at Newport
News Will Not Increase.
Superintendent Post of the Newport

News Shipbuilding Company, which is building a large number of warships, has been at the Navy Department talking with officials on the extent to which the strike was interfering with the progress of work, and present and future plans. The trouble is not working, and this causes delay on all the branches of construction, including that of the government. The naval officials got the idea, however, that there would be no extension of trouble beyond its present dimensions, and that all

adjustment would be brought about without serious disarrangement of the government's interest in the ships now building.

Will Go on the McClellan.

Capt. Arthur W. Yates, quartermaster, United States army, has been relieved

from duty as quartermaster and acting commissary on the transport Sedgwick, and after transferring his effects belonging to that position to Capt. Carroll A. Devol, quartermaster United States army, will report to the general superintendent of the transport service for assignment to duty on the transport McClellan as quartermaster.